

REMARKS**OVERVIEW**

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claim 1 has been amended. The present response is an earnest effort to place all claims in proper form for immediate allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issuance are therefore respectfully requested.

ISSUES UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 4-10, 13-16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Germany 3,337,369 (Germany '369) in view of either U.S. Patent No. 3,824,813 to Davis, U.S. Patent No. 4,510,778 to Cotton, or U.S. Patent No. 4,663,948 to Rummel. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

To assist the Examiner, the Applicant has obtained an English translation of Germany '369. An IDS listing that translation is filed contemporaneously with this Amendment.

With respect to claims 1 and 10, the Examiner indicates that Germany '369 discloses a multiple compartment dishwasher where both the first dishwasher component and the second dishwasher component are adapted for independent washing. The Applicant respectfully submits that Germany '369 does not disclose this limitation.

Germany '369 discloses a dishwasher with two chambers separated by a removeable partition. When the partition is removed, the entire chamber is used. When the removeable partition is in place, the lower dishwasher chamber may be used by itself. Germany '369 does not disclose that the top dishwasher chamber is used by itself.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of "the first compartment and the second compartment both adapted for independent washing." Because Germany '369 does not

disclose that both compartments are adapted for independent washing, this rejection to claim 1 must be withdrawn.

Claim 10 requires "a first dishwasher compartment adapted for independent washing" and "a second dishwasher compartment adapted for independent washing." Also, claim 10 requires "the electrical control system adapted for providing simultaneous use of the plurality of dishwasher components." Germany '369 merely discloses that when the partition is removed, both compartments are used and when the partition is in place, the bottom dishwasher compartment is used by itself. Germany '369 does not disclose that multiple dishwasher compartments are used independently. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection to claim 10 must be withdrawn on that basis. As claims 4-9 depend from claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these rejections should also be withdrawn. As claims 13-16 and 17 depend from claim 10, it is also respectfully submitted that these rejections must be withdrawn as well.

There is also an reason for patentability of claims 1 and 10. In particular, there is no proper motivation or suggestion to combine these references. In particular, Germany '369 discloses a partitionable dishwasher. Davis and Rummel are directed towards combination washer and dryers. Cotton is directed towards a control system that can be used to control one or more washers or dryers. Neither Davis, Rummel nor Cotton is specifically directed towards a dishwasher. Neither Davis, Rummel nor Cotton disclose a dishwasher having two chambers. The Examiner states the motivation or suggestion to combine Germany '369 with Davis, Cotton, or Rummel is that:

"It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of Germany '369, to include managing control means as taught by either Davis, Rummel or Cotton, for the purpose of

preventing an electrical overload to the system and since Cotton discloses the control is not limited to in particular arrangement."

(Office Action, page 2, last line through page 3, line 4). The Applicant submits that no proper motivation or suggestion to combine exists as Rummel, Davis and Cotton are directed towards laundry appliances and not a dishwasher. Also, Davis, Rummel or Cotton are directed towards combining multiple appliances together where each appliance performs a different function (i.e. washer and dryer). Therefore none of these references disclose "a power limiting distribution control system operatively connected to each of the plurality of dishwasher components for managing a distribution of power" as required by claim 1 or an "electrical control system adapted for providing simultaneous use of the plurality of dishwasher components" as required by claim 10. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection should be withdrawn on this basis as well.

Claims 2, 3, 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Germany '369 in view of Davis, Cotton or Rummel as applied to claims 1 and 10, and further in view of Patton et al. Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1. Claims 11 and 12 depend from claim 10. The deficiencies of Germany '369, Davis, Cotton, and Rummel have already been described. Patton does not remedy these deficiencies. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection should also be withdrawn as well.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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